



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

May 2012

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:45 am Fellowship

9:05 am Sunday School

&

Bible Study

10:15 am Worship

Church Phone:

979.885.2211

Fax 979.885.7003

Web site

www.tlcsealy.org

Rev. David Vandercook

Maggie Kent, Office Secretary

ELDERS:

Lowell Coody, 865-9638

John Fullen, 210-912-8503

Vic Grisbee, 865-5393

Lee Hobratschk, 885-6090

Jimmie Meyer, 713-503-1780

Jim Pursley, 885-6438

Matthew Rath, 713-670-6018

Carl Sebesta, 865-0366

Alfred Tomasek, 877-0848

Barry Wolf, 877-0341

TRINITY TIDBITS

A monthly newsletter for the people of Trinity Lutheran Church of Sealy, Texas



Did it really happen?

As our faith is shaken at times by the so-called wisdom of this world, we may find ourselves asking that question at times when it comes to the resurrection of Jesus. It is a fact that is, of course, central to our faith. St. Paul puts it this way to the Corinthian Christians: "... if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain and your faith is in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:14). If Christ didn't rise from the dead, we might as well stop believing and deny our faith because it doesn't matter anyway.

But Christ did rise from the dead. God's Word gives witness to this fact and we believe it happened because we can trust His Word.

That doesn't stop the world from trying to disprove the reality of the resurrection, however. In response to such criticism and to equip the saints to defend the faith, Higher Things magazine, a publication especially aimed at high school students, but plenty applicable to people of all ages, published an Apologetics issue recently. Apologetics is not apologizing for the faith, but defending it. One article, written by Rev. Jonathan Fisk, who is best known for his bi-weekly Worldview Everlasting videos on YouTube, wrote an article giving facts to support the scriptural account of the resurrection. Here are some of the basic facts Pastor Fisk cites for evidence of the resurrection: Jesus was a real human being. Jesus dies by crucifixion and was buried. Jesus had followers who took his death really hard. Jesus' tomb was empty three days later. Risking death, the disciples preached in Jesus' name. Why would they do that? Even antagonists like Saul (renamed Paul) convert. Christianity was founded in Jerusalem where all of this stuff happened, yet not a single person has ever been able to produce the dead Jesus' body.

There is far more detail in the article than I can list in this space, but I encourage you to check out this issue of Higher Things magazine. You can download it for free at <http://higherthings.com/news/apologetics-issue.html>. Stand firm in the faith. Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

In Him,
Pastor

May Sermon Themes and Texts

May 6

Theme: Testing the Spirits

Text: 1 John 4:1-11

May 13

Theme: How to Overcome the World

Text: 1 John 5:1-8

May 20

Theme: Left Behind

Text: John 17: 11b-19

May 27

Theme: Even These Dry Bones Live

Text: Ezekiel 37:1-14, Acts 2:1-21



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the Month!



5/01	CAMERON Hein	5/13	Justin Tesch	5/23	Braden Meyer
5/01	James Sneed	5/14	Matthew Kieke	5/23	Melvin Schmidt
5/03	Bambi Thrasher	5/14	Cynthia Sodolak	5/24	Susie Toellner
5/03	BREANNA CONTRERAS	5/14	Kent Michaels	5/25	Angela Putt
5/05	Karen Naida	5/14	Sterling Schiller	5/26	Madison Lee
5/06	Rhonda Fitzgerald	5/15	Bonnie Reay	5/27	Viola Sebesta
5/09	George Baade	5/16	Amanda Barbosa	5/28	RACHEL PINKLEY
5/09	Robin Jacobson	5/17	Geraldine Stuessel	5/29	ZOEY RAMSEY
5/10	David Hauschild	5/17	Ellie Michaels	5/29	Brody Schiller
5/10	Barbara Vohs	5/17	Kerry Pavelka	5/30	JAMIE PUTT
5/10	Krystal Schneider	5/18	Scott Stuessel	5/30	Brittney Steinhauser
5/11	CALEB KRUZEL	5/19	Don Henry	5/30	COLE TESCH
5/11	Brittany Foerster	5/20	Elgien Konesheck	5/31	LINDSEY DZIADEK
		5/22	ERIK JULIAN		



Happy Anniversary



Let's rejoice with these couples as they celebrate the designated anniversaries.

5/02/1992	Dean and Robin Jacobson	5/20/1978	Robert and Debbie Fait
5/10/1969	Bill and Linda Blume	5/21/1961	Jerry and Dolores Cain
5/12/1979	Robert and Barbara Vohs	5/24/1980	Robert and Donna Emshoff
5/16/1981	Jay and Marla Sams	5/25/1991	Carl and Patti Sebesta
5/16/1987	Kirby and Joyce Amthor	5/29/2004	Pastor and Laura Vandercook



Please keep in your Prayers our Nursing Home Residents

Kirby Amthor Ellie Michaels Eddie Svinky

Lillie Wittenburg Estella Heintschel Louise Kinsey

Shut Ins Oridell Ekarius J. P. Gerhart

Edd and Clara Gerstenberger Joe and Bernice Hintz

Sharon Salyer Lavonn Schier Joyce Meyer



Thanks for all the prayers, cards, and visits during my surgeries and recovery and for all the acts of kindness shown to my family.

Jerry Leiber



Dear Maggie and Staff of Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool,

I just wanted to take the time to Thank You for allowing Kari and I to come in and provide our DNA fingerprinting service to the families enrolled in your preschool. We are both looking forward to serving you again in the future.

Thanks,

Russell Kuecker,

Woodman of the World Representative

PS. The pictures on the website are FANTASTIC!

www.tlcsealy.org



BASKET OF HOPE OFFERING

Many thanks to all of you who so generously donated to the Basket of Hope offering. Due to Trinity members' caring hearts, \$2,685.40 was collected to build baskets to be delivered to seriously ill children in local hospitals by sport celebrities and their wives. What a blessing your generosity will be to those special children!

Blessings, Carolyn Grisbee



Dear Friends in Christ,

We have just received notification of another gift from you. Thank you for your generosity and continued support. China will celebrate Tomb Sweeping Day next week. This year it just happens to fall during Holy Week. On Tomb Sweeping Day families will clean the tombs, leave food offerings, burn pretend money and pictures of things they wish for their deceased relatives, and set off fireworks to scare away evil spirits. We will be celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord, knowing that we do not have to appease our ancestors or scare away evil spirits. Our loved ones rest in the grace of our Savior. Our Lord has done everything for us.

God's blessings to all.

Sincerely,

James and Ardith Vandercook



The family of Maydell Reichardt would like to thank everyone who expressed their sympathy to us through the many prayers, phone calls, cards, food, memorials and floral tributes received due to our recent loss. A special thank you to Pastor David Vandercook for his numerous visits to her while at TruCare Living Center and also for his words of comfort and hope; Debbie Fait, organist, for the musical accompaniment during the funeral service and to the Ladies Aid of Trinity Lutheran Church for providing the food and drinks after the service. We sincerely appreciate all the kindness and thoughtfulness shown to us during this most difficult time. May God Bless you all.

Sandra and Robert Berger and Family



First Communion was held on Maundy Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy, on Thursday April 5, 2012 with five children receiving Rite of First Communion by Pastor David Vandercook. The children are Krystal and Kristen Cash, Brody Schiller, Eleanor Anderson and Courtney Dziadek with their families.



Bake Sale – Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies Aid is having a bake sale Saturday, May 12th beginning at 8:00 am on the corner of Hwy 36 and 4th Street. We need support from everyone to help bake items for the sale. Won't you join the ladies by baking or supporting this project? If you plan on helping by baking please bring in your baked items by 8:00 am on Saturday, May 12th which is the day of the sale or bring in during office hours on Friday, May 11th. Thank you for your support in advance!



Food Pantry News!

In March we were able to distribute food to 175 families, which helped feed 495 individuals. We will always be in need of paper grocery bags. Please save them for us.

In the last several months, we have welcomed several new directors at the pantry; Pastor Lani Rousseau as a chaplain and coordinator and Beverly Victory as a coordinator. Both are representatives from the First United Methodist Church. We have also welcomed Betty Reptka, a representative from the First Baptist Church, and Mikie Ehret, a representative from Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, as directors and coordinators at the pantry. What a blessing! Our family at the Pantry keeps growing to keep pace with our needs. Let your coordinators know how much you appreciate the job they are doing representing your church.

Isn't it amazing how things always work out for the better? From the depth of our hearts, we thank everyone for their care, kindness, and generosity. God's Blessings.

Vernon Ekarius, Coordinator



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid Society members were welcomed by president, Ruth Paben on April 5th.

Betty Herridge gave an interesting program; "Easter Poem."

Bake Sale will be held Saturday, May 12th at corner of Highway 36 and 4th Street.

Five 1st Communion members were given gifts. There are four High School Graduates also were given gifts.

Vivian Kveton and Nettie Swearingen were hostesses and refreshments were enjoyed.

Hostesses on May 3rd are Betty Richter and Rose Marie Trenckmann.

The flowers on the altar were from The Ladies Aid Society, April 15th.

Samantha Waxler observed her birthday this month.

Next meeting will be held May 3rd. Visitors are welcome.

Nettie Swearingen



DAY LUNCHEON!

Trinity's Senior Day was held on April 4th with twenty-nine attending the luncheon. Our day began with Pastor sharing a devotion and grace before lunch. We thank Mary Buechmann for providing the beautifully decorated Easter cake for dessert. Everyone had a great time after lunch playing bingo and dominoes. Thank you to Bobby Barrett for once again being the bingo caller.

Mark your calendar for the next luncheon that will be held on May 2nd at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall. We will play bingo and dominoes following the luncheon. Domino players please bring your dominoes. This luncheon is a time for seniors to come and enjoy the fellowship. You are not obligated to bring food and playing games is optional. You may invite your friends and neighbors. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please note, if you sign up to attend and are not able to come to the luncheon we ask that you call Bev or Patsy and let them know that you will not be attending. The food is prepared according to the number of individuals that sign up. Any questions call Bev Ekarius at 885-2014, Phyllis Sams at 979-732-9477 or Patsy Tomasek at 877-0848.

Bev Ekarius



MOPS meets on May 10th and May 24th at 9:30am. Mothers of children ages birth through and including Kindergarten are welcome to join us for fun and fellowship.

Laura Vandercook <><



Happy Mother's Day!

Dad came home to find toys all over the living room, dirty dishes stacked in the sink, clothes piled in the laundry room, beds unmade and kids still in their pajamas. The house was a wreck, like nothing he's seen before.

Worried, Dad rushed upstairs to find Mom reading a book in bed.

"Are you okay?" he asked. "What happened?"

"You know how you always ask what I do all day." Mom replied. "Well, today I decided not to do it."



TLC Congregation—

The Board of Education is in need of volunteers for Vacation Bible School 2012. This year we will be exploring how to "Trust God" through Sky July 16-20 from 8:30-11:30 am. We are in need of lots of help in order to make VBS a success.



Here is how VBS runs...

The kids are placed in crews of about 5 kids of various grade levels (K-5th). During the week, crew leaders are in charge of leading the kids to stations, encouraging them to participate, and having tons of fun! We need at least 20 crew leaders. Even if you can't help all week, your help is needed the days you are available.



Now, there are 6 main stations in VBS:

Opening/Closing, Chaddar's Movie Adventure, Bible Story, Snack, Games, and Imagination Station.

There is also a Preschool VBS. The Preschool VBS is a lot like elementary VBS; they also have crews that visit some of the stations.

Additionally, child care is provided to workers of VBS through the Nursery.

As you can see, there is something for everyone to help with at Sky VBS 2012. If you have any questions or would like to help out in any capacity, please contact Leslie Pacher at 979-885-8297.



Everyone is invited to the four year old class graduation that will take place on Sunday, May 13, 2012 during the 10:15 am worship service. The children will wear the preschool's cap and gown that must be returned. The children will be able to keep their tassels as a gift. A gift bag with keepsakes will also be given to each pre-kindergarten child to take home.

We would like the parents of the children to be prompt bringing their child/children to their classrooms at 9:45 am. This will give us ample time to put the caps and gowns on the children and for the parents to take pictures.

Most important, we would like all the parents out of the classrooms by 10:00 am so we can calm the excited children and be ready for the ceremony.

After the worship service the parents and congregation are invited to have cake and punch in the gym. This is also a good time for the parents to take pictures of the graduating children with friends, families and teachers for keepsakes.

I would like to say a Big Thank You to the preschool parents, congregation, preschool board members and the teachers for their support and dedication throughout the year. And a special thank you to Mary Buechmann for supplying the graduation cake for all of us to enjoy.

Please come and take part in these children's lives and watch them graduate and move forward as they continue to learn and know that Jesus loves them. Remember to be here by 9:45 am on Sunday, May 13th for GRADUATION!

I pray for each child whether going to kindergarten or just going into the next class. I pray that we have given each child the right teaching tools to look to God in their times of need. I pray as you grow throughout the years not to let things get in the way of learning, praying and most of all loving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I ask this in your precious name. Amen.

 **Sunglasses Day!** On Wednesday, May 16th, the children may come to preschool wearing sunglasses! Please label your child's sunglasses with their names. Hopefully we will have a beautiful sunny day to enjoy God's world through our sunglasses.

 **Water Safety with Retired Trooper Gary!** When the weather turns warm, everyone wants to be in or around the water. Hanging out at the pool or the beach on a hot day is a great way to beat the heat.

Between having fun and checking out the lifeguards, most people don't think much about water safety — but they should. For people between the ages of 5 and 24, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death.

Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will be at the preschool on Wednesday, May 9th at 10:00 am. Mr. Gary will talk to the children about water safety tips.

Splashing, wading, and paddling — it must mean a great day in the water. Playing at the beach, at a water park, by a lake, or in a pool can be a real treat on a hot day. Swimming is a lot of fun, but Mr. Gary will tell us how to stay safe in the water.

 **Wear Purple Day!** On Friday May 11th, the children may wear the color PURPLE to reinforce the color of the month.

 **Family of the Week!** Family of the week is a program we have that aids children in being able to share their family with everyone at preschool and church. Each week a family will be chosen to be Family of the Week.

What this entails is for your child to bring about five to ten pictures of their family to be placed on the preschool bulletin board in the gym. Always check your calendar of events to see if it is your turn to be family of the week. Families of the Week for the month of May are:

May 1st – May 4th - Stihl Ellison

May 7th – May 11th - Alexander Hanks & Mellanie Laguna

Please hand your pictures to your child's teacher the Friday before your child is Family of the Week!

 **Ice Cream Wednesdays!** July is National Ice Cream Month in the USA and the 3rd Sunday in July is National Ice Cream Day.

Preschool will celebrate ice cream day each Wednesday for the month of May since we are not in school in the month of July. It is hard to imagine greater fun than enjoying the taste of ice cream.

In the USA more ice cream is consumed per head than any other country in the world – such is the love of ice cream among Americans. This is reflected in other ways too, not least by the fact that the USA has its own 'National Ice Cream Month'. Since 1984, when President Reagan proclaimed that National Ice Cream Month be celebrated annually, every July has been a focus for greater attention to ice cream in the United States with the 3rd Sunday of that month each year being National Ice Cream Day.

Wednesday, May 2nd - Ice Cream Cones!

Wednesday, May 9th - Popsicles!

Wednesday, May 16th - Push Ups

Wednesday, May 23rd - Ice Cream Sandwiches!

With ice cream loved by so many people around the world, the preschoolers will enjoy ice cream every Wednesday this month and hopefully in July, the real month to celebrate ICE CREAM DAY!

 **Back Yard Picnic!** We will have a blast outside by having a Back Yard Picnic. We know how much the children enjoy playing outside and bringing their lunch.

All the children need to bring a sack lunch along with a drink on Friday, May 18th to enjoy the day outside with our Back Yard Picnic! Whether we have rain or not we will enjoy the day!

 **Rainbow Day!** The preschool will have a Rainbow Day on Friday, May 25th which is the last day of preschool. We would like all the children to wear as many colors as they can to reinforce the colors learned throughout the year!

 **Important Information! All tuition and late fees are due by May 5th so we are able to close out the year!**

Potty Training! I want to remind the two year old parents that all who are going into the three year old class this fall must be potty trained. Please remember that if your child is not potty trained they may not be in the three year old class. That means no pull ups! Each child must be in underwear or panties!

Potty training is possible if the teacher and parents work together. I appreciate all the parents supporting the teacher for potty training the children.

If your child has been sent home with a change of clothes from Trinity, please return it by the end of this school year.

A Special Thank You! To all the parents and congregational members I want to say thank you for supporting the preschool this year.

Parents, I appreciate all the donations of juice, snacks, volunteering and prayers given to the preschool. Thank you for sending your child to learn about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and most of all the appreciation of loving the preschool. Your heart shows the love by your participation! From the bottom of my heart and the teachers, THANK YOU!

I would like to say thank you to my Preschool Board Members for all the support for the preschool, taking time out for monthly meetings, all the prayers, and most of all giving your heart in the support of the preschool and the teachers.

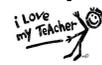
The teachers and office staff Robin have done an excellent job this year in loving all the children and teaching them about Jesus. God has placed this special staff of Trinity who give their all in everything they do here at preschool. I appreciate each and everyone for all the hard work this year.

I would like to say thank you to Pastor Vandercook for spending time with the children in Chapel telling Bible Stories each Wednesday. What a great way to learn about our Lord and Savior with Pastor Vandercook. The children look forward to hearing the Bible stories that Pastor tells them and I love watching the children with excitement when he walks into the sanctuary. Pastor thank you for sharing the love of Christ with the preschoolers.

Each year it is hard to say good-bye to the children and their families. We will miss the children who are leaving to enter kindergarten or moving away or for the families that have had more than one or two children in the program and now their last child, their baby, are graduating preschool.

You are always welcome to come by and visit the preschool, visit church if you are looking for a church

home or join us for VBS during the summers. You are always welcomed!



Teacher Appreciation! Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7th – May 11th. Preschool teachers have a special gift and talent in teaching and loving our children.

Let's show our teachers how special they are by the Teacher Appreciation Day Ideas given to you earlier for this special week. If you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Robin. Let's make this a special surprise week for the teachers.

Thanks to all who make these teachers feel important, blessed and loved. Thank you for making this a great week for these special teachers who touch the heart of all of us. Thanks for being there for all of us all year long. All of you are special parents with a caring heart. You are greatly appreciated!



End of School Party! Preschool will have their end of school hot dog party on Wednesday, May 23rd, 9:30 am-10:30 am. Please look for the sign up list to help with games and refreshments!

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the table of your heart." (Proverbs 3:3)

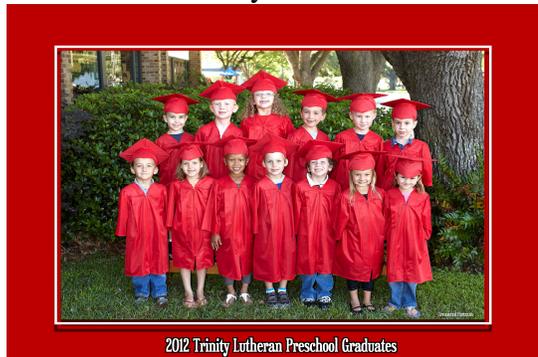
Have a Great Summer From All of Us At
Trinity Lutheran Preschool
In Christ,
Ms. Maggie

Trinity Lutheran Preschool Pre-K Class



2012 Trinity Lutheran Preschool Graduates

Ms. Neysa's Class



2012 Trinity Lutheran Preschool Graduates

Ms. Kristi's Class

God bless you!

Prohibitions against prayer are now common in most public school graduations. But some students at a high school in Washington, Illinois, came up with a way around the ban.

Ryan Brown, a graduate scheduled to give a speech, paused to bow in silent prayer as he approached the podium. Moments later, with all eyes on him, Brown faked a sneeze. In response, a handful of his friends shouted, "God bless you!"



CHURCH WORKDAY, SATURDAY, MAY 19th, 2012

Mark your calendar. Circle May 19th because this is the day you need to leave open and plan on being at the church at 8:00 A.M. for a church workday. Below is a list of some of the projects we can plan on taking care of.

1. Remove wax off the carpet and pew cushions in the church.
2. Clean the ice machine.
3. Clean out the garage.
4. Redo the area around the slide in the playground (remove mulch and replace with new material, remove and replace landscape timbers.)
5. Clean all baseboards.
6. Go through all keys in Maggie's office and get rid of unwanted keys, re-label good keys and rearrange on metal cabinet door.
7. Clean kitchen area where needed.
8. Trim shrubs around the church.
9. If you look around just a little, there is always more to do.



CHURCH COUNCIL *Trinity Lutheran* Church Council Meeting March 12, 2012

Members Present:

Dale Toellner-VP
Linda Blume-Treasurer
Robbyn Hill-Secretary
Bobby Barrett-Stewardship
Sue Kristynik-Evangelism
Sherri Santoro-Fellowship
Vernon Ekarius-Trustees
Jimmie Meyer-Elders
Brenda Cash-Youth
Fred Paben-Ushers

Dale Toellner opened meeting with prayer and a devotion

VP Dale Toellner asked that a motion be made to accept Robbyn Hill as Secretary – motion made by Jimmie Meyer, 2nd by Vernon Ekarius – motion passed

Minutes from last meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept by Jimmie Meyer, 2nd by Linda Blume-motion passed.

Old Business:

- DCE call committee – Sue reported that they are looking over resume's now – next meeting is scheduled for April.
- Pictorial Directory – reported about 85 appointments are scheduled – working on more. Telecare is encouraging also through phone calls.

Reports:

- **Treasurer-Linda**-See report provided for details. Again we are in the black. AMEN
- **Stewardship-Bobby**-All is going well
- **Evangelism-Sue**-Everything going good
- **Trustee-Vernon**-Continuing to work to keep the building going. May 19th is the

next work day-a few details on what will be done include:

- Cleaning out garage-taking everything out and hopefully putting back less
- Playground work needs to be done (slide repair, etc.)
- Normal cleaning of church and kitchen, etc.
- **Elders-Jimmie-**
 - Lenten offering will go to Basket of Hope and Food Pantry.
 - Website – 1st part is done – payment will need to come from different organizations – such as youth, music ministry, etc.
- **Fellowship-Sherri** – a REAL breakfast will be served on Sunday 3/18 and the traditional pancake breakfast will be served Easter Sunday
- **Youth-Brenda**-Time Square has been cancelled for March. April 21st will be a work day for the kids – which includes cleaning the Boehm’s fence
- **Ushers-Fred**-All okay

Motion to accept Reports as presented. Vernon made the motion, 2nd by Jimmie – motion carried
New Business:

- YMCA sent a letter requesting use of gym for the week of June 11-15 for “Catch” and for the week of June 18-22 for “cheer camp”. Dale Toellner will respond with a letter letting them know that due to the schedule of our own business the calendar is too active to guarantee availability, etc. etc.
- Maggie would like to sponsor the preschool conference here which will take place in September, 2012.
- Thank You letters from Office of International Mission to Trinity Lutheran Church thanking us for the gifts made to support Zachary and Erika Sommermeyer

and for James and Ardith Vandercook.

These letters will be given to Maggie to be placed in the newsletter and posted in the Narthex.

Motion made to adjourn by Jimmie Meyer, 2nd by Bobby Barrett – motion carried 7:42pm

Dale Toellner closed meeting with prayer.

The Price of Freedom

In “What Did He Die For?” Twila Paris reminds us why we observe Memorial Day — and why we worship Jesus as our Savior. The first verse tells of a 21-year-old soldier fighting for America’s freedom during World War II. The second verse recalls another young man, many centuries prior, sent by his Father to win eternal freedom from sin for the entire world.

The chorus offers this challenge:

“What did he die for when he died for you and me,
Made the sacrifice so that we could all be free?
I believe we will answer each to heaven
For the way we spend a priceless liberty.
Look inside and ask the question, What did he die for?”

Memorial Day challenges us to live so as to honor the sacrifices made by members of the military. We value our freedom because of the heavy price people have paid for it. Likewise, every day we’re challenged to live so as to honor Jesus’ supreme sacrifice. He calls us to spend our “priceless liberty” using our blessings to bless others.



Church members, please sign the attendance sheet with each family member names including children each Sunday you are in church so the office may keep an accurate attendance.

Introduce yourself to visitors in your pew and encourage them to sign the attendance sheet and make them feel welcome!